

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

Docket No.: 3624-0157P

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 2 as follows:

--An ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer may be provided between the inclined perimeter surface of the body and the inclined perimeter surface of the striking plate. The ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of niobium, chromium, aluminum, copper, iron, zirconium, titanium, vanadium, tantalum, silver, nickel, tungsten, and alloys thereof. The ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer is formed on the inclined perimeter surface of the body or the inclined perimeter surface of the striking plate by electroplating or coating.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on the last line of page 10 as follows:

--FIGS. 7 and 8 illustrate a second embodiment in accordance with the present invention, wherein the opening 11 of the body 10 includes a shoulder 13. Further, an ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer 40 can be provided on the inclined perimeter surface 12 of the body 10 or the inclined perimeter surface 21 of the striking plate 20 by electroplating or coating. The ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer 40 is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of niobium, chromium, aluminum, copper, iron, zirconium, titanium, vanadium, tantalum, silver, nickel, tungsten, and alloys thereof. Preferably, the metallurgical compatibility between the material of the body 10 and the material of the ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer 40 is higher than that between the material of the body 10 and the material of the striking plate 20, and the metallurgical compatibility between the material of the striking plate 20 and the material of the ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer 40 is higher than that between the material of the body 10 and the material of the striking plate 20. This avoids generation of the intermetallic layer between the materials of the striking plate 20, the body 10, and the ~~intermedia~~-intermediate layer 40.--

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

Docket No.: 3624-0157P

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 16 as follows:

--As illustrated in FIG. 7, the ~~intermedia~~intermediate layer 40 is located between the inclined perimeter surface 12 and the inclined perimeter surface 21, ~~with the shoulder 13 stably supporting the intermedia layer 40 and the striking plate 20.~~ As illustrated in FIG. 8, when proceeding with friction welding, with the high heat generated as a result of rotation of the rotating pin 30 and with the tight engagement between the inclined perimeter surfaces 12 and 21, the body 10, the ~~intermedia~~intermediate layer 40, and the striking plate 20 are bonded together with better metallurgical compatibility in a solid state. The bonding strength and bonding reliability are further improved.--